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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

JOHN WELLS KING ADMITTED IN VA AND D.C.

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January 6, 1998

OUR FILE NO. 1352-102-65

Ms. Magalie R. Salas, Secretary **Federal Communications Commission** Washington, D.C. 20554

> Re: Petition for Rulemaking to Amend FM Table of Allotments MM Docket No. 97-227 RM-9159 Wasilla, Alaska

Dear Ms. Salas:

Enclosed herewith on behalf of KMBQ Corporation, please find an original and four copies of Reply Comments regarding the above-referenced Rulemaking proceeding.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

ohn Wells King

JWKapp Enclosures (5)

Before The

Federal Communications Commission

Washington, D.C. 20554

In The Matter Of

Amendment of Section 73.202(b)

Table of Allotments,
FM Broadcast Stations
[Wasilla, Alaska]

MM Docket No. 97-227

RM-9159

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To:

Chief, Allocations Branch Policy and Rules Division Mass Media Bureau FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Reply Comments of KMBQ Corporation regarding
Comments filed by
Pioneer Broadcasting Company, Inc.
and Chester P. Coleman

KMBQ Corporation, by its attorneys, hereby submits its Reply Comments to Comments filed by Pioneer Broadcasting Company, Inc. ("Pioneer") and Chester P. Coleman ("Coleman") in the above-referenced Rulemaking.¹

By Petition for Rulemaking filed August 5, 1997, KMBQ Corporation ("KMBQ"), requested the Commission institute a rulemaking proceeding to amend Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules, the Table of FM Allotments, so as to allocate Channel 273C2 to Wasilla, Alaska, as that

KMBQ notes that comments and counterproposals were filed on December 19, 1997 by Pioneer ("Pioneer Comments and Counterproposal"), and on December 22, 1997 by Coleman ("Coleman Comments and Counterproposal"). As of this date, the counterproposals have not been placed on public notice by the FCC. KMBQ shall file comments regarding the counterproposals at the appropriate time. KMBQ's Reply Comments herein are directed to the comments filed by Pioneer and Coleman, not to the counterproposals they have advanced.

community's second local FM transmission service ("KMBQ Petition"). In response, the Commission released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* ("*NPRM*") in the above-captioned proceeding proposing the requested change to the Table of Allotments and soliciting the submission of comments by December 22, 1997.² On December 22, 1997, KMBQ filed Comments in this Rulemaking, confirming that, if allotted, KMBQ would apply for the channel and, if granted the construction permit, would build the facility.

Comments and counterproposals were filed on December 19, 1997 by Pioneer, and on December 22, 1997 by Coleman.

1. Pioneer Comments and Counterproposal

The Pioneer Comments and Counterproposal proposes allotting channel 265C2 to Wasilla instead of Channel 273C2, and allotting channel 276C1 to Anchorage in lieu of channel 276C2, so as to permit the upgrade of KMXS(FM), Anchorage, Alaska, for which Pioneer is the licensee, from a class C2 to class C1 facility. Pioneer expresses its intentions to apply for and construct the Class C1 upgrade at its existing site, if the Commission makes the requested allocation change.

Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations, for Wasilla, Alaska, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in RM-9159, MM Docket No. 97-227, DA 97-2270, released October 31, 1997 ("NPRM").

2. Coleman Comments and Counterproposal

The Coleman Comments and Counterproposal proposes allotting channel 273C2 to Sterling, Alaska, as that community's first local FM allotment, rather than to Wasilla. Coleman stated that he intends to file an application to construct a station in Sterling and to construct the station promptly if his application is granted.

3. Reply Comments of KMBQ Corporation

For its reply, and without prejudice to comments it may later make on the Pioneer and Coleman counterproposals, KMBQ continues to believe that allotment of a new channel to Wasilla is in the public interest, and believes that Channel 273C2, which KMBQ originally proposed be allotted to Wasilla, should be allotted.

As stated previously, KMBQ's proposal to allot channel 273C2 to Wasilla is consistent with Commission policy and would advance the public interest. It is KMBQ's intention to construct the new facility on channel 273C2 at the same transmitter site from which Station KMBQ(FM), licensed to KMBQ, operates, thus permitting economies of scale.

4. Error in Pioneer Comments.

The Pioneer Comments and Counterproposal states that there currently exists no allocation for Wasilla, Alaska.³ That statement is

Pioneer Comments and Counterproposal at 2.

inaccurate, as channel 259C1 is allocated to Wasilla. KMBQ(FM), licensed to KMBQ Corporation, is on the air on channel 259C1 at Wasilla.

5. Conclusion.

Allocating channel 273C2 to Wasilla, Alaska, will serve the public interest by providing that rapidly growing community with its second local FM transmission service. If the Commission allots the channel, KMBQ will apply for it. Accordingly, KMBQ reaffirms its request to allocate Channel 273C2 to Wasilla, Alaska. As stated previously herein, at the appropriate time KMBQ shall file comments responding to the counterproposals made by Pioneer and Coleman.

Respectfully squbmitted,

KMBQ CORPOR

By:

John Wells King Imelia L. Brown

Its Attorneys

HALEY BADER & POTTS P.L.C.

Suite 900 4350 North Fairfax Drive Arlington, VA 22203-1633 703/841-0606 January 6, 1998

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned, an employee of Haley Bader & Potts P.L.C., hereby certifies that the foregoing document was mailed this date by First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, or was hand-delivered*, to the following:

fat Vagne

Peter A. Casciato
A Professional Corporation
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Suite 701
San Francisco, CA 94111
Attorney for Pioneer Broadcasting Company, Inc.

David Tillotson, Esq. 4606 Charleston Terrace, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20007 Attorney for Chester P. Coleman

January 6, 1998